



Tournaments Committee

John Volpe, Chairman



Spring Is here!

The longer days of spring have finally arrived, and the fishing season is ready to begin! If you haven't already done so, this is a great time to check your equipment and make sure you have plenty of supplies. Preparation is the key to success.

Whether it means tying rigs, sharpening hooks, or servicing reels, nobody wants to be caught unprepared. There is nothing worse than being on the water and having to stop to perform a task which could have been done in the dead of winter.

The **New England Saltwater Fishing Show** is being held at the Rhode Island Convention Center from March 27-29. Many exhibitors will be present, and you will also be able to purchase that special tackle you have been waiting for.

There are also many guest speaker seminars. This is a great way to learn about a fishery which you may not be that familiar with. It also provides the more experienced angler with the opportunity to get a few little pointers that may make all the difference.

And this also means the RISAA Tournaments season is here! This is a good time to become familiar with the tournament rules. You can find them online at the RISAA web site at

www.risaa.org/tournaments/rules.html

Check the list of Official Weigh-In Stations as well so you'll know where to bring that special catch to get weighed.

They are all always listed on the RISAA web site and

published in this news magazine on page 20.

Over the next couple of months the Tournaments Committee will be visiting all of the approved weigh-in stations to verify the scales. Every one of them must give the EXACT same readings at all weights. These shops do all of us a favor by weighing fish for RISAA members. Hopefully our members will support these local shops.

KNOW THE REGULATIONS

Remember to always be updated on the current fishing regulations, as they change frequently. As of this writing we know that recreational fishing regulations will be changing for Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York. There will surely be changes for striped bass and possibly other species.

Nothing would ruin your day like a visit from a local environmental law officer. Be sure to visit the most current regulations from your state on their fisheries websites. I find it very handy to bookmark the site on my smartphone. That way you will quickly be able to see the up-to-date regulations.

The regulations are also always published in this newsmagazine near the back.

Have great season and good luck!



Member RICH DESBIENS compares the length of a 36 inch striper to 3-yr old Logan as his mom Kelly holds him this past Labor Day weekend. He caught the fish on Yumbrella with 5" split tail minnows.

Guided Fly Fishing & Light Tackle Adventures



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